

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicant's attorneys appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and remarks.

Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims.

Claims 1 and 11 have been rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Schaffer (U.S. 2004/0061221) in view of Nan De Welle (U.S. 2004/0245519).

Schaffer's publication date is April 1, 2004, which is after the filing date of the pending application. Thus, Schaffer is a reference, if at all, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103(c) and MPEP §706.02(k) effective "November 29, 1999, subject matter which was prior art under former 35 U.S.C. §103 via U.S.C. §102(e) is now disqualified as prior art against the claimed invention if that subject matter and the claimed invention 'were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person'. This change to 35 U.S.C. §103(c) applies to all utility, design and plant patent applications filed on or after November 29, 1999."

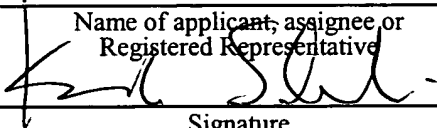
Pursuant to MPEP §706.02(1)(2) (Page 700-39), common ownership as required by 35 U.S.C. §103(c) can be established by a statement made for the record. Thus, to establish common ownership as required by 35 U.S.C. §103(c) it is submitted that the present application and Schaffer were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, owned by International Rectifier Corporation of California. Pursuant to MPEP §706.02 and 35 U.S.C. §103(c), therefore, Schaffer may not be used as a reference against claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). It is respectfully submitted that Schaffer should be withdrawn.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 16, 2005:

Kourosh Salehi

Name of applicant, assignee, or
Registered Representative



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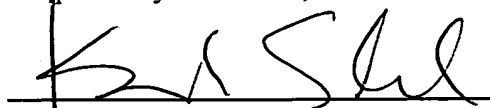
September 16, 2005

Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,



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